

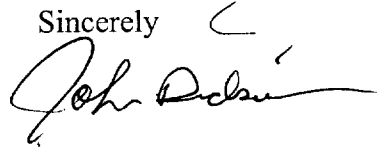
Commissioner
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch Rm. 1-23
124120 Parkland Dr.
Rockville, Maryland 20857

2231 '99 MAY 17 P3:18

Dear Commissioner,

I am a student at Eldorado High School. Recently, in my English class, we read Upton Sinclair's The Jungle. I don't know if you are familiar with this novel, but it was one of the most influential muck racker novels in the early twentieth century. This book helped bring about the first attempts to reform the meat packing industry. I understand that there is currently a bill on the floor, Docket # 98P-0151/CPI, known as the Downed Animals Act. A downed animal is an animal that falls during transportation. These animals usually get wounded in the fall. This wound often allows harmful bacteria into the animal from the various pollutants around it, namely animal feces. The meat on the animal then becomes tainted and can carry deadly diseases. Allowing these animals to be processed introduces the corrupted meat onto the market and facilitates disease outbreaks. This should not be allowed to happen. I hope you will strongly consider voting for the Downed Animals Act which prevents this from happening.

Sincerely



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98P-0151

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